

Exclusive hadronic cross-sections at BaBar and implications for the anomalous magnetic moment of the muon

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Abstract:

After more than 50 years since the first measurements, the study of e+e-annihilation processes at low energies can still provide rich information in an energy region where perturbative QCD cannot be used. The BABAR Collaboration has an intensive program on hadronic cross-sections in low-energy e+e- collisions, which are accessible via initial-state radiation with data taken near the Upsilon(4S). Our measurements allow significant precision improvements of the predicted value of the muon anomalous magnetic moment. These improvements can shed light on the current ~3.5 sigma difference between the predicted and the experimental values. We review the status of our program, report on the precise cross-section measurements in the energy region between the production threshold and about 4.5 GeV for a variety of processes with 2-6 hadrons in the final state, and discuss the implications of these measurements for the muon g-2.